

A

Token for Children.



PRICE FOUR CENTS.



A
TOKEN
FOR
CHILDREN.



J. METCALF....PRINTER.

WENDELL, MASS.

1825.

A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z.

*A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z.*

*a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z.*

Token for Children.



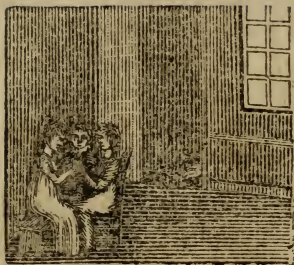
MISS Sarah Howley, when she was between eight and nine years old, was carried by her friends to hear a sermon, where the minister preached upon *Matt. xi. 30.* "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light:" in the application of which scripture, the child was mightily awakened, and made deeply sensible of the condition of her soul, and her need of Christ. She wept bitterly to think what

a case she was in ; went home, retired into her chamber, and upon her knees, she wept and



cried to the Lord as well as she could, which might be easily perceived by her eyes and countenance.

She was not contented with



this, but got her little brother and sister into a chamber with her, and told them their condition by nature, and wept over them, and prayed with them.

After this, she heard another sermon on *Proverbs* xxix. 1. "He that being often reprov'd, hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that

without remedy :” at which she was more affected than before, and was so exceedingly solicitous about her soul, that she spent great part of the night in weeping and praying, and could scarcely take any rest day or night for some time together ; desiring with all her soul to escape from everlasting flames, and to get an interest in the Lord Jesus Christ : O what should she do for Christ ! what should she do to be saved !

She gave herself much to attend upon the word preached, and still continued very tender under it, greatly relishing what she heard.

She was very much in secret prayer, and was usually very importunate, and full of tears.

She could scarcely speak of sin, or be spoke to, but her heart was ready to melt.



When she was at school, she was eminent for her diligence, teachableness, meekness, and modesty, speaking but little,

and when she did speak it was usually spiritual.

She spent much time in reading the scripture.

She was exceedingly dutiful to her parents, very loath to grieve them in the least; and if she had at any time offended them (which was very rare) she would weep bitterly.

She abhorred lying, and allowed herself in no known sin.

She continued in this course of religious duties for some years together.

When she was about fourteen years old, she broke a vein in her lungs (as it is supposed) and often spit blood, yet did a little recover.

In the beginning of January she was taken very bad again, in which sickness she was in great distress of soul. When she was first taken, she said, "O mother, pray for me, for Satan is so busy that I cannot pray for myself: I see I am undone without Christ, and a pardon! O, I am undone to all eternity!"

Her mother, knowing how serious she had been formerly, did a little wonder that she should be in such agonies, and asked her what sin it was that was so burdensome to her spirit. "O mother," said she, "it is not any particular sin that sticks so close to my con-

science, as the sin of my nature ; without the blood of Christ, that will damn me.”

Her mother asked her, what she should pray for, for her. She answered, “ that I may have a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ ; and that I may have an assurance of God’s love to my soul.” Her mother asked her, why she spoke so little to the minister that came to see her. She answered, “ It was her duty with patience and silence to learn of him.”

One time when she fell into a fit, she cried out, “ O, I am going, I am going ; but what shall I do to be saved ? Lord Jesus, I will lie at thy feet, and

if I perish, it shall be at the fountain of thy mercy."



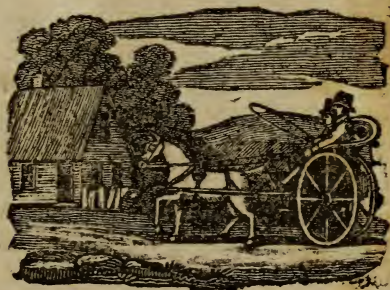
She was much afraid of presumption, and dreaded a mistake in the matters of her soul, and would be often putting up ejaculations to God, to deliver her from deceiving herself.

To instance in one : “ Great and mighty God,” said she, “ give me faith and true faith ; that I may not be a foolish virgin, having a lamp but no oil.”

Her father bade her be of good cheer, because she was going to a better Father : at which she fell into a great agony, and said, “ but how do I know that ? I am a poor sinner, who wants assurance ; O, for assurance !” This was her great, earnest, and constant request, to all that came to her, to beg assurance for her ; and she would look with so much eagerness upon them, as if she desired nothing in the world so much as that they would pity her, and

help her with their prayers. Never was a poor creature more earnest for any thing than she was for assurance, and the light of God's countenance : O the piteous moan that she would make ! O the agonies that her soul was in !

The Lord's day before that on which she died, a kinsman of her's came to see her, and



asked her whether she knew him. She answered, "Yes, I know you, and I desire that you would learn to know Jesus: You are young, but you know not how soon you may die! and O, to die without Jesus is a fearful thing: O, redeem time! O time, time, precious time!" Being requested by him, not to spend herself, she said, "she would fain do all the good she could while she lived:" upon which account she desired that a sermon might be preached at her funeral, concerning the preciousness of time.

Some ministers who came to see her, earnestly entreated



the Lord to give her some token for good, that she might die in full triumph: notes of the same nature were sent to several churches.

After she had so long waited for an answer to their prayers, she said, "Well, I will venture my soul upon Christ."

For the pains and agonies that she was in, her patience was next to a wonder: "Lord," said she, "Lord, give me patience, that I may not dishonour thee!"

On Thursday, after long waiting, great fears, and many prayers, when all her friends thought she had been past speaking, to the astonishment of her friends, she broke forth thus, with a very audible voice and cheerful countenance: "O Lord, thou hast promised that whosoever comes unto thee, thou wilt in no wise cast him out: Lord, I come unto thee, and surely thou wilt in no wise cast me out. O, so sweet! O

so glorious is Jesus ! I have thee, sweet and glorious Jesus ; he is sweet, he is sweet ! O the admirable love of God in sending Christ and free grace to a poor lost creature !”

Her soul then seemed ravished with the love of Christ. And while she was engaged in magnifying of God, her father, brethren, and sisters, with others of the family were called, to whom she spoke particularly, as her strength would give leave. She gave her bible as a legacy to one of her brothers, and desired him to use that well for her sake ; and added, to him and the rest, “ O make use of time to get Christ for your

souls : Spend no time in running up and down, or in playing : O get Christ for your souls, while you are young : Remember now your Creator before you come to a sick-bed : Put not off this great work till then, for then you will find it hard work indeed : I know by experience, the devil will tell you it is time enough, and ye are young, and what need ye be in such haste ? you will have time enough when you are old. But remember the words of a dying sister. If you knew how good Christ is ! If you had but one taste of his sweetness, you had rather go to him a thousand times, than to stay in this wick-

ed world. I would not for ten thousand worlds part with my interest in Christ. O how happy am I, that I am going to everlasting joys ! I would not go back again for twenty thousand worlds ; and will not you strive to get an interest in Christ ?

After this, looking upon one of her father's servants, she said, " What shall I do at the great day, when Christ shall say to me, Come, thou blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for thee ? and shall say to the wicked, Go, thou cursed into the lake that burns forever ! What a grief it is for me to think, that I shall see any of my friends that I

knew upon earth, turned into that lake which burns forever ! O that word, forever ! I speak these words to you, but they are nothing, except God speaks to you too : O pray, that God would give you grace !” And then she prayed, “ O Lord, finish thy work upon their souls : It will be my comfort to see you in glory ; but it will be your everlasting happiness.”

On Friday, after she had had such lively discoveries of God’s love, she was exceedingly desirous to die, and cried out, “ Come, Lord Jesus, O come quickly ! Conduct me to thy tabernacle. I am a poor creature without thee : but,

Lord Jesus, my soul longs to be with thee : O when shall it be ? Why not now, dear Jesus ? Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly ! But why do I thus speak ? Thy time, dear Lord, is the best : O give me patience."

On Saturday she spoke but little, being very drowsy, yet now and then she dropt these words, "How long, sweet Jesus ? Finish thy work, sweet Jesus : Come away, Lord Jesus, come quickly."

On the Lord's day she said but very little. She requested that notes of thanksgiving might be sent to those who had formerly prayed for her, that

they might help her to praise the Lord for that full assurance which he had given her of his love ; and seemed to be swallowed up with the thoughts of God's free love to her soul. She commended her spirit often into the hands of the Lord. The last words she was heard to utter, were these, " Lord, help, Lord Jesus, help ! dear Lord Jesus, blessed Jesus ! " Thus, on the Lord's day, between nine and ten o'clock in the evening, she sweetly slept in Jesus, and began an everlasting sabbath.



ACCOUNT OF

TABITHA ALDER.

Tabitha Alder was daughter of a minister in Kent, who lived near Gravesend. She was instructed in the holy scriptures, by her father and mother; but there appeared nothing extraordinary in her, till she was between seven and eight years old.

About which time, when she was sick, one asked her, what she thought would become of her if she should die? She answered, that she was

greatly afraid she should go to hell.

Being asked, Why she was afraid she should go to hell? She answered, because she did not love God.

Again : being asked how she knew that she did not love God? She replied, " What have I done for God ever since I was born? And besides this, I have been taught that he who loves God, keeps his commandments ; but I have kept none of them."

Being further demanded, if she would not fain love God? She answered, " Yes, with all my heart if I could, but I find

it a hard thing to love one I do not see."

She was advised to beg of God a heart to love him: She answered, "I am afraid it is too late."

Upon this, seeing her in so desponding a condition, one of her friends spent the next day in fasting and prayer for her.

After this, that friend asked her how she did now? She answered with a great deal of joy, "Now I bless the Lord; I love the Lord Jesus dearly; I feel I do love him. O, I love him dearly."

Why, said her friend, did you not say, yesterday, you did not love the Lord, and that

you could not ? “ Sure,” said she, “ it was Satan hindered me. But now I love him : O, blessed be God, for the Lord Jesus Christ.”

After this she had a discovery of her approaching dissolution, which was no small comfort to her. “ Anon,” said she, with a holy triumph, “ I shall be with Jesus ; I am married to him, he is my Husband, I am his bride ; I have given myself to him, and he hath given himself to me, and I shall live with him forever.”

This language struck the hearers with astonishment. She still continued in a kind of ecstasy of joy, admiring the excel-

lency of Christ, rejoicing in her interest in him, and longing to to be with him.

After a while, some of her friends, who stood near her, observed a more than ordinary earnestness and fixedness in her countenance ; they said one to another, “ Look how earnestly she looks ; sure she sees something ! ”

One asked her, what it was that she fixed her eyes upon so eagerly ? I warrant, says one, she saw death coming.

No, said she, it is the glory that I saw, it is that on which my eyes were fixed.

One demanded of her, what the glory was like ? She repli-

ed, " I cannot tell what, but I am going to it: will you go with me? I am going to glory. O that you were all going with me to that glory!" Her soul took wings with these words, and went to the possession of that glory. She died when she was between eight and nine years of age.

